

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eckhard Alt  
Application No.: 09/735401  
Filed: December 12, 2000  
For: Tubular Stent with Oval Struts  
Examiner: Michael Thaler  
Group Art Unit: 3731

PATENT

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2N-11056-US

## Amendment

This amendment is submitted as part of a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action dated October 8, 2002

## In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

6f. (Twice Amended) A stent formed from an open-ended tube having a first end and a second end, the tube having a wall with a multiplicity of holes formed therethrough between the first and second ends, the holes having been formed by removal of material from the wall, the tubular wall defined by a plurality of struts completely bounding said holes; each of said struts having a cross-section of oval shape with a short diameter corresponding substantially to the thickness of said wall so that the long sides of the oval lie at the outside and the inside of the tube wall at the respective strut.

6g. (Twice Amended) A stent having a first end and a second end, the stent comprising an open-ended elongate tube having a generally circumferential wall, there being a multiplicity of interconnected curvilinear struts formed in the wall of said tube, the struts disposed about a multiplicity of through-holes in said wall, each of said through-holes being bounded completely by struts; each of said struts having an oval cross-section with a short diameter corresponding substantially to the thickness of said wall.